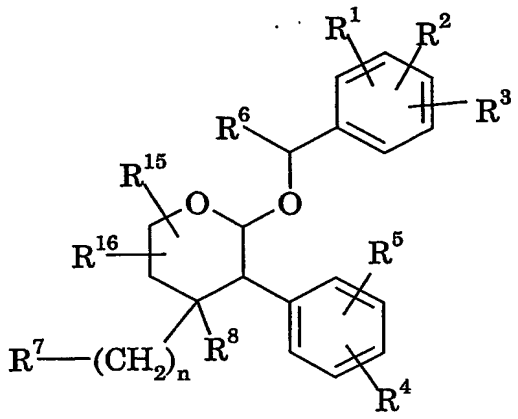
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, fluoroC_{1-6}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, NO_2, CN, SR^a, SOR^a, SO_2R^a, CO_2R^a, $CONR^aR^b$, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl or C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by C_{1-4}alkoxy, wherein R^a and R^b each independently represent hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy substituted by C_{1-4}alkoxy;

R^3 is hydrogen, halogen or fluoroC_{1-6}alkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, fluoroC_{1-6}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-6}alkoxy, hydroxy, NO_2, CN, SR^a, SOR^a, SO_2R^a, CO_2R^a, $CONR^aR^b$, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl or C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by C_{1-4}alkoxy, wherein R^a and R^b are as previously defined;

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkoxy substituted by C_{1-4}alkoxy;

R^6 represents hydrogen or a C_{1-4}alkyl group optionally substituted by a hydroxy group;

R^7 represents a 5- or 6-membered carbonyl or sulfonyl containing cyclic group comprising from 0 to 3 nitrogen ring atoms, from 0 to 1 oxygen ring atom

and from 0 to 1 sulfur ring, wherein said ring is optionally substituted at any substitutable position by one or more substituents selected from =O, halogen, hydroxy, R^{11}, R^{12}, SR^f, SO_2R^g, COR^a, CO_2R^a, $CONR^9R^{10}$, -ZNR^9R^{10}, benzyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-4}alkyl, chloroC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkoxy, C_{3-7}cycloalkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, fluoroC_{1-4}alkoxy, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkoxy, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl or a 5- or 6-membered ring containing in the ring one oxygen atom or N(C_{1-6}alkyl), wherein R^f is C_{1-4}alkyl or aralkyl or aryl and R^g is C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl or NR^9R^{10};

R^8 represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-6}alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy, hydroxyC_{1-6}alkyl NR^9R^{10}, $CONR^9R^{10}$ or SO_2R^g;

R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{2-4}alkyl substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group, or R^9 is a five membered or six membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic ring as previously defined;

R^{10} is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, fluoroC_{1-4}alkyl or C_{2-4}alkyl substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group;

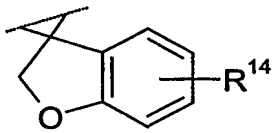
or R^9, R^{10} and the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a heteroaliphatic ring of 4 to 7 ring atoms, optionally substituted by one or two groups selected from hydroxy, COR^e, CO_2R^e, C_{1-4}alkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group, or C_{1-4}alkoxy optionally substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group, or a five membered or six membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic ring as previously defined, or said heteroaliphatic ring is substituted by a spiro-fused lactone ring, and said heteroaliphatic ring optionally containing a double bond, which heteroaliphatic ring may optionally contain an oxygen or sulphur ring atom, a group S(O) or $S(O)_2$ or a second nitrogen atom which will be part of a NH or NR^d moiety, where R^d is C_{1-4}alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C_{1-4}alkoxy;

or R^9, R^{10} and the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a non-aromatic azabicyclic ring system of 6 to 12 ring atoms;

or R^9, R^{10} and the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a heteroaliphatic ring of 4 to 7 ring atoms to which is fused a benzene ring or a five membered or six membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic ring optionally containing 1, 2 or 3 additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

R^{11} and R^{12} each independently represent hydrogen, hydroxy, COR^e, CO_2R^e, C_{1-4}alkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group, or C_{1-4}alkoxy optionally substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group;

or, when they are attached to the same carbon atom, R^{11} and R^{12} may together represent =O, $=CHCO_2R^a$, $-O(CH_2)_mO-$, $-CH_2O(CH_2)_k-$, $-CH_2OCH_2C(O)-$, $-CH_2OCH_2CH(OH)-$, $-CH_2OCH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, $-CH_2OC(CH_3)_2CH_2-$, $-C(CH_3)_2OCH_2CH_2-$, $-CH_2C(O)OCH_2-$, $-OC(O)CH_2CH_2-$, $-C(O)OCH_2CH_2-$, $-C(O)OC(CH_3)_2CH_2-$, $-C(O)OCH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, $-OCH_2(CH_2)_k-$, $-OC(CH_3)_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-OCH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2-$, $-OCH_2CH_2C(CH_3)_2-$, $-OCH_2CH=CHCH_2-$, $-OCH_2CH(OH)CH_2CH_2-$, $-OCH_2CH_2CH(OH)CH_2-$, $-OCH_2C(O)CH_2CH_2-$, $-OCH_2CH_2C(O)CH_2-$, or a group of the formula



or, where they are attached to adjacent carbon atoms, R^{11} and R^{12} may together represent $-OCH_2CH_2-$ or $-OCH_2CH(OH)-$, or R^{11} and R^{12} may together form a fused benzene ring;

or, R^{11} and R^{12} together form a C_{1-2}alkylene bridge across the pyrrolidine, piperidine, morpholine or piperazine ring to which they are attached;

R^{13} represents hydrogen, phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, tetrahydropyranyl, piperidinyl, N-substituted piperidinyl (where the N-substituent is C_{1-6}alkyl), C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, $-SO_2C_{1-4}$alkyl or C_{2-4}alkyl substituted by a C_{1-4}alkoxy or hydroxyl group;

R^{14} represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl or fluoroC_{1-4}alkyl;

R^{15} and R^{16} each independently represent hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, CH_2OR^c, oxo, CO_2R^a or $CONR^aR^b$ where R^a and R^b are as previously defined and R^c represents hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl or phenyl;

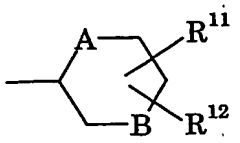
Z represents a bond, C_{1-6}alkylene or C_{3-6}cycloalkylene;

k is 1, 2 or 3;

m is 1 or 2; and

n is zero, 1 or 2;

with the proviso that when n is zero and R^8 is hydrogen, R^7 does not represent a C-linked nitrogen-containing ring of the formula



wherein

A represents NR^{13}, and B represents a bond, CH_2, NR^{13} or O, wherein one or both hydrogen atoms in said CH_2 moiety may be replaced with one or both of R^{11} and R^{12}, or alternatively, one of the hydrogen atoms in said CH_2 moiety together with a hydrogen atom from an adjacent carbon are replaced by a double bond; or A is O, and B is NR^{13}; and R^{11} and R^{12} together represent =O;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, halogen or CF_3.

3. A compound according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, halogen or CF_3.

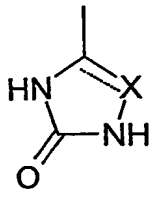
4. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein R^3 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or CF_3.

5. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein R^4 is hydrogen or fluorine.

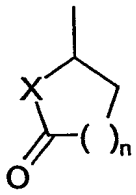
6. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein R^5 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or CF_3.

7. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6 wherein R^6 is C_{1-4}alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy.

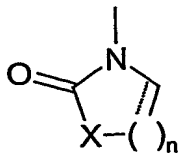
8. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 7 wherein R^7 is a cyclic group selected from the group consisting of:



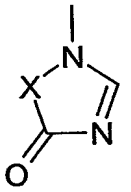
X is N, CH or CH_2



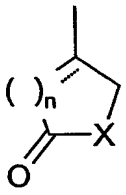
X is O or CH_2
n is 1 or 2



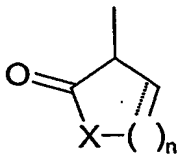
X is O, NH, CH_2 or NR^{13}
n is 1 or 2



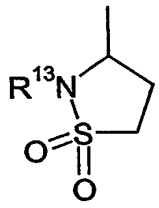
X is NH or CH_2

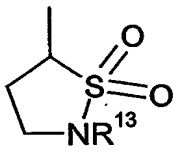


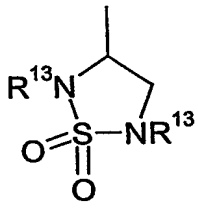
X is O, NH, CH_2 or NR^{13}
n is 1 or 2

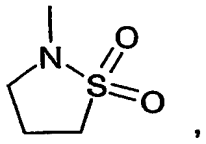


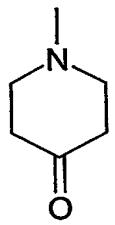
X is O, NH, CH_2 or NR^{13}
n is 1 or 2

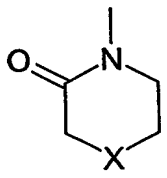




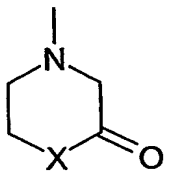




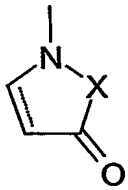




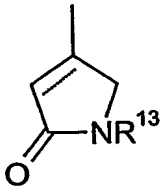
X is NR^{13} or CH_2

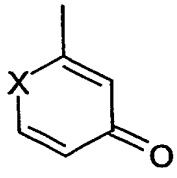


X is NR^{13} or CH_2

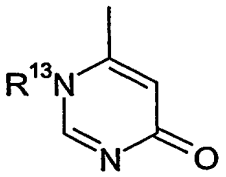


X is NR^{13} or CH_2





X is NR^{13}, O or SO_2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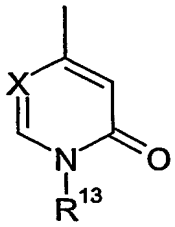
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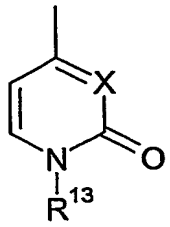
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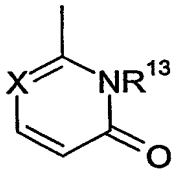
X is N or CH X is N or CH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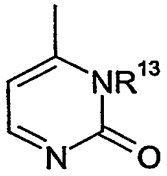
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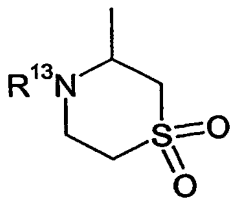
X is N or CH

wherein R^{13} is as defined in Claim 1, and further wherein any of said cyclic groups is optionally substituted by one or more groups as defined in Claim 1.

9. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 7 wherein R^7 is a cyclic group selected from the group consisting of: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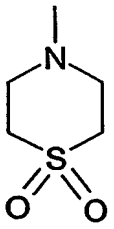
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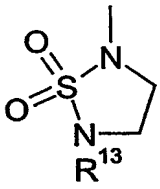
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wherein R^{13} is as defined in Claim 1, and further wherein any of said cyclic groups is optionally substituted by one or more groups as defined in Claim 1.

10. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 9 wherein R^8 is hydrogen or methyl.

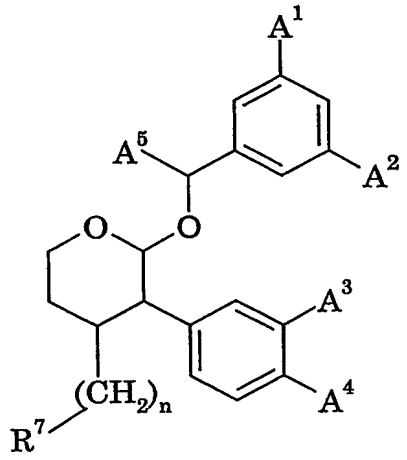
11. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 10 wherein R^{12} is hydrogen, hydroxy, C_{1-2}alkyl substituted by hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkoxy or CO_2R^e (where R^e is hydrogen, methyl ethyl or benzyl).

12. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 wherein R^{13} represents hydrogen, methyl or ethyl.

13. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 12 wherein R^{15} and R^{16} are both hydrogen atoms.

14. A compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 13 wherein n is zero or 1.

15. A compound according to Claim 1 of the formula (Ia):



(Ia)

wherein

A^1 is fluorine or CF_3;

A^2 is fluorine or CF_3;

A^3 is fluorine or hydrogen;

A^4 is fluorine or hydrogen;

A^5 is methyl; and

R^7 and n are as defined in Claim 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 15, together with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

17. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 15 for use in a method of treatment of the human body.

18. A method for the treatment or prevention of physiological disorders associated with an excess of tachykinins, which method comprises administration to a patient in need thereof of a tachykinin reducing amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

19. A method for the treatment or prevention of pain or inflammation, migraine, emesis, postherpetic neuralgia, depression or anxiety, which method comprises administration to a patient in need thereof of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

20. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 15 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of physiological disorders associated with an excess of tachykinins.

21. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 15 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of pain or inflammation, migraine, emesis, postherpetic neuralgia, depression or anxiety.